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The Need of the Month — Austria

THE EUROPEAN HARVEST FIELD

I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

—*John* 10.14-16.

Published Bi-monthly by the

AMERICAN-EUROPEAN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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JULY-AUGUST
1948

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for Christian Oneness and Evangelization
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CATHERINE RUTH SMITH, Editor

God Is on the Throne

Well, America, you are trying hard to put some of the wrongs right in this very chaotic world. May I suggest a passage from the grand old Book? — "Judgment must begin at the house of God." There is One who can put things right. If we obey Him, confess our sins, and plead in His great name for our country, He will answer, and something will happen that will surprise the nations.

The American-European Fellowship has a number of faithful workers on the harvest field who frankly admit that they owe a debt to America: love for God's Word, love for souls, most of all, love for Christ and His glorious salvation. "Yes," they say, "we owe a great debt." What shall the writer of these notes add?

God bless America! Where should I have been now, if a godly layman in Baltimore had not lovingly hammered me with John 3.16? The love of Christ constrains me to call for prayer for America, that God may speak from the throne: "Behold, I will do a new thing." In "Christian Victory" Clifford Lewis writes: "Give God a chance." His stirring message has driven me to write this. I believe God is waiting; are we willing? Through America the Holy Spirit can arouse all Europe. The harvest fields will truly be made ripe for reaping.

Here is what Clifford Lewis says direct to those enjoying liberty under the Stars and Stripes: "On my trip around the world, I visited Babylon, Greece, Rome, Pompeii and other cities and nations which forgot God, rejected Christ, lived a selfish, sinful life and fell. God is no respecter of persons or nations. If America continues in desecrating the Lord's Day, in gambling, drinking, profanity, worldliness, and unbelief, she is headed for the graveyard of nations. 'Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people' (Proverbs 14.34). America's only hope is a mighty, prayed-down, heaven-sent, God-glorifying, devil-defeating, Holy Ghost revival. Only God can solve the problems of crime, immorality, juvenile delinquency, divorce, and sin in general. Let every Christian pray earnestly and work constantly for a spiritual awakening.

May every Fellowship friend take this to heart with loving, desperate seriousness.

F. SPENCER JOHNSON.

Eldon House, Lansdowne, Croydon, England.

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The Need of the Month — Austria

EMMY H. STEYRER

I have been asked to write a brief article for THE EUROPEAN HARVEST FIELD, to inform our dear Christian friends in America that I am still engaged in work for the Lord, here in my own dear country of Austria, which was once so gay and beautiful, and is now so mutilated, impoverished and destitute.

Some of you may remember that I was born in Austria, brought up in the Catholic faith, and educated in a convent-school. I longed to become a nun myself, after my dear mother died, for I thought this was the only way in which I could serve my Lord, and at the same time be able to help my fellow-men. But this was not God's way for me. Therefore He brought it to pass that I left Austria soon after my mother's death, and went to England to earn my living by teaching in private families and in schools.

There I was brought in contact with Protestant people and churches, but at that time their services did not give me anything. I had been a very strict and earnest Catholic; but now I had lost faith and was drifting, telling myself and others: "If God is not in the Catholic Church, He does not exist at all." But God saw my heart, and its yearning after Him Whom I could not find, because I had never seen a Bible, nor was there anybody to tell me of Him.

In His own good time He led me over to beautiful Ilfracombe, and brought it to pass that one lovely Sunday afternoon, very much against my own will, I had to go to church with an old lady who could not go alone. And there the Holy Spirit took hold of my soul. I had to listen to the preacher's message, as much as I struggled against it. The faith of that humble man of God made such an impression upon my heart that I realized that I was lost, and that I would have to accept salvation at once, or the Lord would not give me another chance.

I did accept my Lord, and He carried me wonderfully through what followed, especially through three years in France, where I went soon after my conversion, and where I had no help whatever. I even had to go to the Catholic Church again with my pupils, but when I felt my faith was getting weak, I cried to the Lord for help, and He saw my need and brought me through. He guided me not only in France, but later on in California, where I stayed for three years, and then in Austria for two more years. But in all this time I had not known one really born-again Christian. Every church to which I went was dead and hard, without the living Christ.

When I came back to the United States, some years later, I was brought into touch with the Eighth Avenue Mission in New York. Under the ministry of dear Miss Sara Wray, I came to know the Word of God, and to understand what prayer means, and what mighty power it is. When the first World War broke out, I went back to Austria to serve as a Red Cross nurse. There I had many wonderful experiences. The Lord heard and answered prayer, often healing patients whom the doctors had given up as perfectly hopeless

cases. So striking was this that the doctors sometimes marvelled, and could not understand why it was that the patient did not die, but came back to life and perfect health in a very short time. I told them that I had prayed for him, and that by the power of the Almighty God, our Great Physician, the man had been healed. In this way I could witness to the unbelieving doctors, who scoffed and jeered, but could not contradict, because they saw the results with their own eyes. And how many a sick or dying man could I tell of our Lord and Saviour!

After the first World War was over, I entered the mission work in which I am still engaged today, and in 1922 I was sent to America to do deputation work for it. The Lord blessed me, and gave me many dear friends wherever I went. I had hoped to go back to Austria in two years, but conditions then were such that I could not do so. I was destitute of money, and had to find work to support myself. At first I worked as a nurse in St. Louis for about a year. Then I went to Chicago, where I became a member of the Moody Memorial Church, and an evening student at the Moody Bible Institute. Oh, what a wonderful time I spent there! I praise the dear Lord daily for having permitted me to come into touch with all those strong and earnest Christians, and with such mighty men of God.

Miss Wray had made me acquainted with Rev. Norman J. Smith, of the American-European Fellowship, while I was still in New York City. It was really he who started me on my deputation work for Austria, by giving me helpful advice, and the addresses of outstanding Christian men and women, as well as of Bible schools and institutions where I could speak of our work. Timid as I am, it was very hard in the beginning; but the Lord was with me, and trusting in Him, I went about in His strength. I shall never forget how I trembled when I had to speak at the Moody Bible Institute, first at the women's morning devotion hour, and after that at the men's morning service. I cried to the Lord for help, and He sustained me and gave me a message which was well received.

Some years later, while I was again engaged in deputation work for the Fellowship, the news came from Austria that many Catholics were turning away from their church, and joining the Lutheran church, and there were not enough workers and teachers for them. The Lord made it possible for me, through the help and support of my dear friends of the Fellowship and of the Moody Church, to come back to Austria, where I have now been laboring in the Lord's vineyard since July, 1936.

Austria has always been a hard field, the Catholic power is so very strong, and it is still harder now in these terrible times. In recent years, the children have been told that Christ is not the Son of God, that He was only a despicable Jew whom we do not need and do not want, and in Whom it is a shame to believe. Now these children have grown up to young manhood and womanhood, and it is almost impossible to reach them with the Word of God. There seems to be a ban upon this country, which had the Gospel once, before the Bibles were taken from the people and burned in the open market-places. Now the people are blinded, and cannot find their way back to the truth.

We are so thankful for German Bibles, New Testaments, Scripture portions, and tracts, which we prayerfully distribute, and it happens from time to time that a soul is converted just by reading the Word. Only a few days ago I learned of such a case. What joy this brings to our hearts, and how we praise the Lord for every soul that He saves! He has promised that His Word shall not return unto Him void, and we stand on this promise. Even if we see but little result of our labor, eternity will prove its faithfulness.

MISS STEYRER IN AUSTRIAN DRESS

What a great and wonderful God we have, and what a privilege it is to serve Him! We experienced His protecting power so often during the war, and the terrible time of hunger and starvation which followed. Dangers of all kinds were around us, as when a bomb fell on the building and exploded just back of our hall, or when the fighting was on in the streets around our house. We felt His everlasting arms about us, and we learned to understand Proverbs 18.10: "The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe."

Our work has been hindered and hampered in many ways during these last ten years, but in spite of all, we have gone on regularly. The only real interruption came during the twelve days which we had to spend underground, while the battle was raging on the streets of Vienna. But even there I could quote the Word of God to my fellow-prisoners, and strengthen them through prayer. The result of this work we shall only see when we get home to Heaven, but we know it is not in vain. Now we are praying most earnestly for the salvation of our poor, suffering Austrian people. I would ask all our friends in America to join us in this prayer, that the dear Lord may free our people from this ban which came over them centuries ago, that He may touch the hardened, discouraged, unbelieving hearts, and make them see the one way to freedom and salvation.

Last April we had a week of evangelistic meetings, in the afternoons and evenings, held by an outside evangelist who spoke in the power of the Holy Spirit. He has been with us again from June 6th to 13th. The Lord has used him mightily, and many souls have come to a full surrender and have been saved.

I am doing a great deal of visiting in two large homes and hospitals for the aged and for incurables. It is appalling to find how little the majority of them know of the Bible, and therefore of God's way of salvation. They think their sufferings and good works will open Heaven for them. This just hurts, and drives me to my knees more and more. So near death, and so far from the Saviour! But God is merciful, and it may be that some, whom we have faithfully pointed to the Lord, may yet in their last moments, without our knowing, turn to Him and be saved before leaving this earth. But what unspeakable joy it is when we see the eyes light up suddenly when the precious name of Jesus is mentioned, and an old or incurable sufferer, man or woman, says: "Yes, Jesus is now my only hope. I did pray to Him before, but I have only come to know Him since you told me more about Him, and now I trust Him alone. He will bring me home, for I believe in His finished work for me." Twice a month I have the Sunday service in one of these

homes, and in the other one I have started Bible study lessons, every Thursday afternoon. Only a few are able to leave their beds, but those who can walk are very thankful, and love to come.

Outward conditions in Austria are still hopeless. The fear of a new war in the near future is hanging over us, and people in their distress and suffering say: "There is no God, or He would help us." Oh, if we only could reach them with the Gospel, the glad tidings of God's love, that they might find peace! But most of them are in such a spiritual plight that they cannot believe God loves them, after all the horror of the past ten years. But we who believe are lifting up our heads, because we know the Lord will come soon to call His own out of this sinful world. And knowing this wonderful truth, our hearts go out more and more to those who are still outside, hopelessly lost.

Therefore we are very grateful for every kind of help we receive from our dear Christian friends through the Fellowship. There are food packages, clothing, and all kinds of Christian literature, bringing the Word of God to our poor, destitute people. We pass it out, and ask the Lord to bless it, especially to those whom we cannot reach otherwise, who will not enter a church or mission hall, or listen to a preacher. As we give out His Word in the streets and public places, God by His Holy Spirit may speak to them and bring them to His feet. May God bless all our dear friends in America, who make it possible for us to carry on this work here. A great fountain of blessing to me is also the close connection with the Moody Church, which by its regular support enables us to continue our service in Austria.

I would ask all our friends who read this report to join anew in prayer for Austria, and especially for our work each day, that our labor may not be in vain, but may bear rich fruit for the Lord and for eternity. Dear friends, pray without ceasing! Pray with us and for us, that God may yet do great and mighty things in Austria, to the glory of His Name.

Gratefully and lovingly yours in the Lord,

EMMY H. STEYRER.

Austrian Historical Backgrounds

Austria occupies a central position as the doorway to the Balkans, and is therefore of vital importance, both economically and politically. This little country, having less than seven million people, is rich with the beauties of nature and the treasures of the soil. It could maintain itself very well, if it had not suffered so long under the miseries of war. Austria is not an enemy to any other land; it is a country which loves freedom, and longs for its own complete emancipation. Our present government hopes for the calm and prosperous development of the land and the people.

But Austria is also regarded, from the religious aspect, as being a poor country. In the days of Luther, nine-tenths of its people became followers of the Reformation faith, and for some fifty to eighty years the Bible was the sole authority. In Krems on the Danube there was an evangelical grammar-school, and in the neighboring town of Stein there was an evangelical printing-house.

Later, the Emperor Ferdinand II used drastic measures to bring Austria back into the Catholic Church, during the Counter-Reformation. Imperial dragoons and Jesuits scoured the country, seizing Bibles and burning them, and exiling or imprisoning all persons who resisted. Many even suffered a martyr's death for their profession of Lutheranism.

In the year 1732, thirty thousand of the inhabitants of Salzburg were expatriated from their native place, because they refused to abandon the evangelical religion. Later, in the beginning of the nineteenth century, the people of Zillertal suffered a similar fate. Through the high-minded generosity of the Elector of Brandenburg, many of the exiled Salzburgers were enabled to find a new asylum in East Prussia, where they became the salt and light of the old evangelical congregations. During my years of preaching in that region, from 1901 to 1911, I met with many descendants of the ancient Salzburgers.

PASTOR MAX MONSKY

In the providence of God, I came to this land of Austria from Berlin, where I had received my training in theology, and was ready to take up my practical service. This was in the year 1900. I became interested in the so-called "Evangelical Movement" at that time. Some seventy to eighty thousand Catholics were leaving their church, and going over to the Evangelical Church, partly for political, national and cultural reasons. Austria was in need of Evangelical pastors to train these new believers. With many others, I answered this call.

Due to some emergencies and changes, I found myself the only Evangelical pastor between Vienna and Linz. I had to preach in six towns, and give religious instruction in seven widely scattered places. To Zwettl, on the border of Bohemia, I had to travel a long distance, about seven hours by railway. Today this same district has five pastors and a number of assistants. But in those days I cared for it alone, for it was the time of my first young love for my service.

Feeling the need of revival and regeneration, in the summer of 1901 I began to travel as an evangelist to southern Hungary, to Styria, Bohemia, Moravia, and many other places; also, once a month, to Vienna, for Bible lessons in the Christian congregation for young men. The double care of my local pastorate, and of the evangelistic work, proved too great for me, and in 1912 I was led by the Lord to give up my office as preacher in Krems on the Danube, and to found the Evangelical Association in Austria, of which I became General Secretary. I travelled a great deal, holding conferences, and published the fellowship magazine called "Truth and Love."

After the close of the first World War, I began to build up, on this same foundation, the Austrian People's Mission. I used to preach every evening, week after week, in Vienna, Graz, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Wels, Linz, Thening, Mödling, Baden, and many other places. In Graz, between 1000 and 1500 people came every evening, and listened attentively to the Word. After my five weeks of ministry there, I was urged to stay with them a whole year and proclaim the truth. But I could not, since arrangements were already made for the meetings in Salzburg, my next stop. In many of these places, People's Mission Stations were established, with missionaries and

sisters, who gave Bible lessons and discussions, for men, women, and young people, and who also paid many visits in the homes.

Sister Emmy H. Steyrer, who is known to all readers of THE EUROPEAN HARVEST FIELD, has been my most ardent fellow-laborer in this service. In the year 1924, she arranged for me a preaching and lecturing tour of seven months, across the United States of America. I visited both German and American churches, telling of the work of the People's Mission. Then I returned to Austria for further years of service. Later came the second World War, so disastrous in its effects upon our country.

But now, thank God, the war is over, and America has generously helped us in our outward and inward needs. I have written to friends whose addresses I remembered from the earlier time, but many of them are deceased, have moved away, or are for other reasons undiscoverable. From the American-European Fellowship, however, I received a warm response; and now I have been asked to write these few words for the magazine.

The Lord has given us an open door to the people, so that we may minister to them in their distress. We are calling upon you, dear friends in America, to assist us with your prayers and love. We need to found many more of our People's Mission Stations. Besides the spoken word, we are propagating much literature. Some of it we print or hectograph ourselves; some we receive from Switzerland and from America, through the kindness of the Fellowship. We are especially grateful for Bibles, Testaments and Scripture portions.

One other branch of our service must be mentioned, which is difficult, but especially important. There are so many homeless people, living in the camps of displaced persons. I have lately been visiting some of them, to bring a message of hope. I shall do this again in the month of October.

We trust in the help of the Saviour, that He will give us always His Spirit, granting us hourly the necessary power for this difficult service, and also supplying our needs for the large work of the People's Mission and the evangelistic services. May He also animate to that end the hearts of the readers of this very dear magazine. With Romans 8.28-29, I send my cordial greetings to all of you everywhere.

PASTOR MAX MONSKY, General Secretary,
Austrian People's Mission, Vienna-Mödling.

In the Cauldron of Russia

LIFE OF THE REV. I. S. PROKHANOFF. Ninth Installment

During the next two days we finished all the work of our Conference, in fullest detail, according to our program, though when we planned it we had certainly not expected to be meeting in a prison. The minutes were carefully written, read and approved; everything was done with order and precision. This holding of a Young People's Conference in prison is, I believe, without parallel in the history of Christian persecutions.

We were singing nearly all the time, and on the second day the chief of the Cheka came to our cell and complained that we were too noisy. Finally a compromise was reached: we were to have meetings twice a day, two hours in the morning and two hours in the evening. These were now held in the courtyard, and the soldiers and even the officials of the Cheka came to listen. We saw men and women on the roofs of adjacent houses, where they had climbed to see the people who dared to sing in the presence of the terrible Cheka. We used to come out of our basement cells into the courtyard, two by two, in a solemn procession, like the processional of a

large choir in the cathedral; and two by two we marched back again to our cells, singing as we came and went. The guards of the prison had great sympathy for us, for we were young, clean and upright, not like the hardened criminals they were used to guarding.

The chief of the Cheka did not relish such joyous prisoners, and endeavored from the beginning to hurry the procedure of our trial and get rid of us. After three weeks of imprisonment, we were summoned for a hearing, and the twelve oldest of us (this included myself) were sentenced to hard labor at the Suzdal Monastery, in Yaroslav Province. The rest of the prisoners, thirty-five in number, were to be sent to their homes, after giving a written promise that they would remain there until a Law Court trial over their cases could take place in regular order. Soon every one of our young fellow-prisoners left the place and departed for home. With each one of them I parted with a prayer. Some of them I never saw again, but I am assured even now that their days and nights in prison were well invested in training their minds and hearts for future service for the Master.

We who remained were to be taken to the hard-labor camp in the ancient Otrosky Monastery at Tver. On a certain morning we were marched away to this place. Our beds were made of boards, but the regime was not very severe. We were put to work in the office, in the fields, keeping the place clean, etc.

I said to my companions: "Here we are, Christians, in the midst of about five hundred prisoners. God has given us a great field. Let us work!"

We began to have meetings every evening, and many prisoners attended. Usually everyone was free from work after six o'clock, and as we had sufficient time, we started Bible courses. I began to deliver lectures on homiletics and church history. All this time I was truly happy, and poetry flowed from my pen like a living stream. During the time of my imprisonment I wrote a whole book of special hymns, dedicated to the young people, the "Trumpet of David," consisting of one hundred hymns.

During this time I had a most dramatic experience. One day a guard came and notified me that my son was at the gate and wanted to see me. I did not know which son it was. When I went to the gate, there I saw Vsevolod, my younger boy, who was then seventeen. As I have related, we could not help weeping, but it was a great joy to see each other again. I obtained permission to bring my son to my cell, and he partook of a meal with us. We had a very comforting talk together, in which I explained some of the beautiful things that were happening, and he departed in a far better mental condition than when he had approached the prison. Vsevolod went at once to Petrograd, to our apartment there, where he found his older brother Yaroslav. He carried with him a piece of good news which lightened both their hearts, for we had learned that we were soon to be set at liberty.

In the early morning of July 16, three and a half months after the time of our arrest at Tver, we at last became free. Before leaving the camp we arranged a prayer-meeting. The other prisoners parted from us reluctantly and with bitter tears.

I returned to Petrograd, called together the Council of the All-Russian Evangelical Christian Union, and we had a thanksgiving prayer-meeting. I began my preaching once more, and we reopened our Bible School in October, 1922. My older son, who had been a fine student in Latin, Greek and Hebrew, became a professor there in those subjects, while my younger son taught government, finance and economics. Vsevolod also had a remarkable poetical gift, and a fine sense of organization. He would have been of great service to the Evangelical movement, which he idealized. Unfortunately, he passed away on July 23, 1926.

(*To be continued*)

Two Years' Ministry Through CARE

On the cover of THE EUROPEAN HARVEST FIELD for July-August, 1946, Rev. Norman J. Smith placed a paragraph headed, "Food Remittances to Europe." In this he introduced to our readers the work of CARE (the Co-operative for American Remittances to Europe, Inc., 50 Broad Street, New York 4, N. Y.). It was our worker in Austria, Miss Emmy H. Steyrer, who had first written to us of this organization. Mr. Smith's comment on CARE is still true: "We believe it is the safest and most reliable way to minister to the needs of Europe's starving peoples."

Our issue for July-August, 1947, was devoted especially to the work of CARE, and increased funds began to flow in for that purpose. So this is our second anniversary with CARE. During this two-year period, we have sent abroad for food packages, through CARE and similar organizations, a total of four thousand dollars. Each of our missionaries, who is working in a country where he needs it, receives a CARE package or its equivalent, every month. In addition, we minister to about three hundred needy families. These are Christians, most of them Christian workers, vouched for by our missionaries.

Besides the numerous packages sent out by Rev. Charles Cline from our clothing depot in downtown New York, we ship about a ton of used clothing and food, from our home office in Yonkers, every year. This is quite separate from the CARE packages. For certain countries where CARE cannot enter, we frequently avail ourselves of the services of H. B. and I. Food Parcels, Inc.; the Hudson Shipping Co., Inc.; Fraser, Morris and Co., and others. We have also filled numerous special requests for drugs, invalids' diets, etc.

In a recent leaflet issued by CARE, it has been pointed out that Europe is still greatly in need of private aid. The European Recovery Program is long-range, and its full effect will not be felt for eighteen months, at the earliest. In their words: "Meanwhile, malnutrition is a daily, deadly fact. Your friends overseas need help now — from you and from CARE. Remember — they have too little to live on, too much to die on. Keep sending CARE packages."

Packages are now being flown into blockaded Berlin. CARE reports that the average delivery time for an order has been reduced to less than six weeks, with even greater speed in prospect. We need your prayers and help, that we may continue this ministry to our missionaries and to the needy.

Prisoners of Hope

My dear friends of the Fellowship:

In France, as in all the war-torn countries of Europe, there are many, many thousands of political prisoners, those who, during actual war, joined the enemy, and even, in some cases, fought the resistance movement of their own country. In this land the state prisons are overcrowded, and many of those condemned to forced labor for life are still kept in the local prisons. The wonder of God's working among them is so marked, it is nothing less than a revival. It is reported that hundreds are attending regular weekly meetings, and finding Christ as their Saviour.

Today my heart is yearning for these young men, and I am coming to you for prayer-fellowship, for a burden of prayer for three of these, with whom I am in intimate touch, and whose changed lives have meant much to me: a pastor, a teacher, and an Egyptian, Dr. Muselman.

The pastor and the teacher, both condemned to death, were chained together for twenty days. During those fearful days, the pastor experienced new life in Christ; and a Bible was given to the teacher, who almost instantly received light and life. Then their punishment was changed to forced labor for life. They were separated. The pastor went to another prison, where his testimony and witness for Christ have been singularly owned and blessed of the Lord. All around him men are turning from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to serve the living God. We are helping in every way possible, with literature, Bibles, food and clothing, and we count it a privilege to minister to the deep needs of these true children of God.

And then there is my friend the teacher, who is literally a marvel of God's grace. On a recent visit to Grenoble, where I was given entrance into the prison, and had the joy of speaking to a large group, I was moved in seeing so many young ones, some who had not even reached the age of twenty years. Afterward the director of the prison gave me fifteen minutes with my friend alone in the advocates' chamber. What a moment, what a revelation of grace, as I sat there face to face with a young man condemned to forced labor for life, yet so happy, radiant, with a serenity so rare! He was full of praise and prayer for all that God has done for him, for all that Christ means to him. "The prison does not bother me; I am living in Christ, all the adverse circumstances only help me to die to my own miserable life, and to understand Calvary, and appreciate Jesus Christ." As we parted in the hall, he gave me his left hand — the right he lost in the war. I sensed a spiritual fellowship, the best that God gives to those who want nothing else; and as the iron gate closed behind him, I felt so ashamed of myself. In leaving, I thanked the director for his kindness, and asked if he knew what a prisoner he guarded. He responded: "Yes, often, when seeing him, I want to believe."

As I passed through the different halls and gates, the guards asked me about the American prisons, famous for their excellent buildings and arrangements. The teacher is winning souls; God honors him among his fellow-prisoners, and through him the Mohammedan doctor has been saved, and has in turn won others. Here is a spiritual family, for whom Christ is everything. "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice." These inspired words, written long ago in a prison cell, find an echo among our prisoners today.

In various countries there has already been a review of the cases of such prisoners as these. In Denmark, all those who have not done harm directly to their compatriots have already been released. We are hoping for such an undertaking in France. It would hardly be reasonable to keep hundreds of thousands of young people shut up — so will you definitely pray for the Christians among them, that the will of God may be done — it is their hearts' desire. And France needs just such men of God to publish the glad tidings.

We had a wonderful prayer-meeting in a Jewish home yesterday — two dear ones, who through many sufferings found their Messiah, were baptized in His Name, and are His witnesses today in Marseille, a city where many Jews reside permanently, and large groups are steadily coming, seeking ships, waiting for an opportunity to go to their national home, Palestine. I am invited to speak in an immigrant center — what opportunities this land offers! I am going from one town to another, visiting camps of war prisoners, and having blessings and opportunities — great joys and sorrows as well. Please continue steadfastly in prayer for the converts in Paris, all going on with the Lord; and do not forget our need of a home for the coming fall.

In the joy of serving the Lord, your missionary in France,

TORDIS CHRISTOFFERSEN.

"Instant in Season — Out of Season"

Dear Prayer-helpers:

In these days, encouragement comes from the most unexpected quarters. Little four-year-old M. asked her mother to pray, and as she claimed not to know how, the child herself led in the prayer, and had the mother repeat after her. On concluding, the little one said, "Now see, mamma, you are already making progress."

While on my way to the consulate in Prague, recently, I handed tracts to my fellow-passengers, and also to the conductor. A little later he stopped at my seat, saying that he wanted to leave the Roman Catholic Church, and asking if I could advise him how to go about it. Since we were in the busy part of the city, I could not talk to him as necessary about the salvation of his soul, so he gave me his address, that I might write to him about it. We surely need to be instant in season and out of season. May the Lord help him!

We have not forgotten our Gospel effort on behalf of our people in the United States, started before we left there. We hope to reorganize the sending out of the Gospel letters from a new centre. That also takes our time, but we do not want to be slackers, especially as the Lord opens the way and calls helpers for that task.

There can be no doubt in what age we are living. You have opportunity to read about present conditions, and probably know more about them than we do right here. The strain of the upheaval tells even on the children, though they do not grasp the import of the changes about them. For that matter, it seems that even the old ones do not realize the signs of the times. Please pray for us, that some may see the light before it is too late.

If we are to do charitable work reasonably, circumstances ought to be considered. The Word of God says plainly that we are to do good first to those of the household of faith. Not only do they deserve it more, but also, often the best done for the worldly-minded is depreciated.

So much more heartening it is to see the joy of real souls appreciating whatever is offered to them. Here are a few extracts from a letter from Brother and Sister N.: "Last week we received a package sent by Mr. M. H. G., at which we were thoroughly surprised, especially that it came just now, when there is no such thing as real lard to be had. After opening the package, both Grete and I fell on our knees and thanked God from the depths of our hearts. For a number of years we have not seen such good things."

In a later letter, Mrs. N. writes: "You have surprised us anew, and made our hearts rejoice, because of your care for our needs. First we received an announcement about the sending of some glucose; a few days later came the first package, and then two others. We do not know if you can realize how cheering your thoughtfulness is to us, in these times and circumstances. I went to my doctor for advice as to how I might best utilize this medicine. Since before Christmas he had not given me any injections, as I was too weak for them, having fainted during the injection. He advised me to drink it, though in this way only 80 per cent efficiency can be counted on. I will use the precious liquid in this way. The Lord repay you abundantly!"

Knowing how devoted this brother and sister are to the Lord's work, we thought it a duty to try to enable them to continue as long as possible. Surely they belong to the household of faith, and show genuine thankfulness that they have been strengthened to go on, while there is yet time.

In His glad service, yours,

CHARLES AND EDNA LUKESH.

What Europe Needs

Very dear Friends:

Europe's present state is well characterized by the prophet Isaiah, 30.1-7: They take counsel, but not of me; they make a league, but not of my Spirit: they add sin to sin; they take refuge in the shadow of Egypt (their confusion); they shall all be ashamed because of a people that cannot profit them.

The Jewish people were at that time sandwiched in between two giant powers. To the north they had the strong and dangerous Assyrians. To the south they had the mighty Egyptians. When they found themselves in distress, they naturally sought relief and help in one or the other of these great powers. There must have been counsels, conferences and leagues without end. Thus they rocked back and forth between these two giant forces, and their diplomats must have been skilled in using all their wits. The prophets of God did all that was in their power to call attention to this dangerous play. The alternatives were not Assyria or Egypt, but Egypt or Jehovah. It is still self or Christ, flesh or Spirit, sight or faith.

Europe has many striking similarities with the Jewish people of old. We are between the hammer and the anvil, between two giant powers. What shall we do? Ally ourselves with the power from the East? Ally ourselves with our friends from the West? Is there not the growing danger of a crash ahead? How hopeless the situation seems to grow! Utterly hopeless, from the viewpoint of man!

God's Word has an answer for Europe: "In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength" (Isaiah 30.15). If there was ever a time when Europe had to prove that it was not merely nominally Christian, that time is now. It has to call incessantly upon its best friend, — God Almighty. The screw-jack will tighten until there will be no other way but to cry to God — until that which Europe professed for hundreds of years, and never practised, ceases to be the confession of the lips and becomes the confession of the heart. Yes, there *is* one way out: God's way, looking up. He is able.

It was a very cold day in one of the war-devastated countries of Europe. I was in a station waiting-room, in one of the larger cities; the whole city surrounding the depot was completely destroyed. I could not find a room anywhere, and so I had come back to the waiting-room. Here the travellers sat on benches and on the floor, waiting till the next train-connection. Some spoke of all the horrors behind them: prison camps, relatives dead or missing, everything lost — home, farm, property, money, position, loved ones, friends, clothing, everything that man counts dear on earth. One man was eating a piece of bread and sausage. His home was in ruins, his family gone. I asked him where he was going. After thinking for a while, he lifted his hands and took a rope from his pocket. "I suppose I find somewhere a hook, branch or nail," was his answer.

You ask what Europe needs. Bread, fats, wood and coal, decent living quarters, shoes, clothing — these are needed in millions of tons. But the problem is a deeper one. We need inward strength to bear the situation as it is. We need spiritual food, moral help. Give us a new sense of a holy, just and merciful God. We need God. We need Christ, faith, the Bible, hope. We are so deep down, only God can save us out of the abyss of our hell-bound condition.

Yours in Him who is alive for evermore,

FRED AND MARTHA STETTLER.

The Silence in Palestine Is Broken

Dear Dr. Smith:

I continue my earlier letter. Miss Dossik's mother is a widow, and has her own little house in the city, so that she has the right to vote. Not long ago they were having an election of candidates to the Municipal Council of Tel Aviv. She received a blank, or ballot, on which she was to write the name of the candidate for whom she would vote, seal it, and return it to the Municipality. Mother Dossik wrote on it that she knew of only one worthy Candidate, Jesus Christ; and sent it back to the Municipality. You can imagine what a furore this produced! It was even mentioned in the local newspaper. What boldness! What an open and fearless testimony for Christ, in the midst of this hundred per cent Jewish city of Tel Aviv, where the people are trying to live as if Christ had never existed!

When we began to build the new clinic, we had to have a representative of the electric company come to arrange the cable connections, etc. He was an intelligent man. Seeing some Christian literature lying on my table, he began to look it over, and suddenly exclaimed: "Are we really suffering because of Christ? This cannot be, it is impossible!" I had not said a word to him about Christ as yet, – there had been no opportunity. Gently and compassionately I explained to him that there was indeed no other basic cause for the sufferings of Israel during the past two thousand years. "But such sufferings," he exclaimed, "such sufferings! The destruction of six million innocent Jews in Europe! Where is God, or if there is a God, how can He permit such things as these?"

I asked him why it was that Israel was in Europe at all, why she had been cast out from her own land for two thousand years. He made no answer, but hastily withdrew. When he had gone out, I thought: The conscience of Israel is awakening from its age-long sleep. They do not want to acknowledge their guilt, but they *are* awakening. This question will be asked more and more often: "Can all this be because of Him?"

"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved" (Romans 10.1). Blessed is everyone, whether Jew or Gentile, who joins in this prayer of the Apostle Paul. Israel has been passing through the valley of lamentations. Everywhere there has been bloodshed, cities and towns have been cut off from each other, the people have nearly starved. Jehovah again has a lesson to teach His people in "Eretz Israel" (the land of Jacob), that they must seek help not in man, but in God alone; and when they have learned this lesson, the Lord will show them the terms on which help will be given: "Till ye shall say, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord."

We are conscious of the prayers of God's children, who are remembering us in all parts of the world. We know that the Lord can give us an open door, and many opportunities for His work. We have bought more equipment for the clinic, and I already have my new motorcycle, for which you sent the remittance. For all this help we thank you heartily. I have begun to receive your letters again, after the break in the postal service. The work in the clinic is going on, and many people are attending the meetings. In February we had 72 patients in the new clinic, in March 283, in April 258, in May 341, and in June 519. During the time of the truce, things were quieter here, and so more patients were able to come. I know that our friends of the Fellowship will continue their prayers for us, which are so much needed now.

Yours in Him,

JAMES YUK.

AMERICAN-EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP RECEIPTS—June and July, 1948
(The First National Bank in Yonkers is depositary for all gifts.)

32446----$2.00
32447----30.00
32448----10.00
32449---100.00
32450----15.00
32451-----2.00
32452----10.00
32453----50.00
32454-----5.00
32455-----8.00
32456-----2.00
32457----50.00
32458----10.00
32459-----5.00
32460-----2.00
32461----25.00
32462----11.09
32463-----1.00
32464-----5.00
32465----10.00
32466-----5.00
32467----75.00
32468----10.00
32469-----3.00
32470----50.00
32471----38.00
32472---100.00
32473----20.00
32474----20.00
32475----10.00
32476----20.00
32477-----1.00
32478----10.00
32479----$5.00
32480-----1.97
32481-----5.00
32482----10.00
32483----15.00
32484-----1.00
32485-----1.00
32486----15.00
32487----10.00
32488-----1.00
32489----20.00
32490---100.00
32491----30.00
32492-----1.00
32493----75.00
32494----10.00
32495----1.00
32496----10.00
32497---100.00
32498-----2.00
32499-----1.00
32500----35.00
32501----25.00
32502-----6.00
32503----40.00
32504-----5.00
32505---725.77
32506-----7.32
32507----50.00
32508----10.00
32509----75.00
32510----20.00
32511----15.00
32512---$13.49
32513----10.00
32514-----2.00
32515-----1.00
32516-----2.00
32517-----5.00
32518-----2.00
32519-----5.00
32520----10.00
32521----22.50
32522----10.00
32523-----1.00
32524----30.00
32525-----5.00
32526-----2.00
32527----20.00
32528----60.00
32529----15.00
32530----75.00
32531----15.00
32532----10.50
32533----18.00
32534----10.00
32535-----1.00
32536-----2.00
32537----35.00
32538---100.00
32539----25.00
32540----10.00
32541----10.00
32542---100.00
32543----10.00
32544-----5.00
32545---$40.00
32546----10.00
32547----50.00
32548-----1.00
32549----10.00
32550-----5.21
32551----75.00
32552-----1.00
32553----10.00
32554----20.00
32555----11.00
32556----50.00
32557-----1.00
32558----10.00
32559---120.00
32560----75.00
32561----10.00
32562----10.00
32563-----1.25
32564----35.00
32565-----5.00
32566-----1.00
32567-----1.00
32568-----5.00
32569----10.00
32570----10.00
32571----25.00
32572----20.00
32573----25.00
32574-----1.00
32575----25.39
32576------.60

Annual Report of the Auditor

First National Bank in Yonkers,
Yonkers, N. Y., July 9, 1948.

Dear Dr. Smith:

This letter is to certify that I have audited the books of the American-European Fellowship for the period from July 1, 1947, to June 30, 1948, inclusive, and have found them to be in perfect order to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS R. McCUE.

LET US CLOTHE THE CHILDREN.—Rev. and Mrs. Charles Lukesh can use children's clothing of all kinds, for all ages, in their work with the little ones in Czechoslovakia. This may be sent to our Yonkers address, and marked as being for them. Meanwhile, let us not forget the continuing need for clothing and shoes for adults throughout Europe, as autumn comes again. General donations of clothing should go to Rev. Charles Cline, 168 William Street, New York 7, N. Y.

A sister writes: "This is my midsummer offering. I know the Lord will multiply all gifts given in His Precious Name." Here is a valuable thought. Is not the bountiful season of midsummer a time for the making of offerings, as well as for rest and pleasure?